

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A lubricant for water-based metal working oil containing polyether (E) represented by the following general formula (1) and having an HLB of 6.1 to 16.0 and a weight-average molecular weight of 500 to 10,000



[in the formula,  $R^1$  denotes a residue such that at least one hydroxyl group is removed from a compound with a carbon number of 1 to 24 having 1 to 6 hydroxyl group(s);  $A^1$  and  $A^2$  each denotes an alkylene ethylene group ~~with a carbon number of 2 to 4 except a 1,4-butylene group;~~  $A^2$  ~~denotes an alkylene group with a carbon number of 2 to 4 or a 1,2-propylene group;~~ m denotes an integer of 1 or more having an average of 1 to 120; n and p each denotes an integer of 0, 1 or more such that an average of (n+p) is 1 to 200, n or p is 0, and n and p are not simultaneously 0; q denotes an integer of 1 to 6; and  $\{(OCH_2CH_2CH_2CH_2)_m/(OA^1)_n\}$  in a case where n is an integer of 1 or more denotes a random bond].

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended): The lubricant according to Claim 1 [[or 2]],

wherein  $R^1$  in the general formula (1) is a residue such that all hydroxyl groups are removed from dihydric or trihydric alcohol.

4. (Currently amended): The lubricant according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1,

wherein  $A^2$  in the general formula (1) is an ethylene group.

5. (Currently amended): The lubricant according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~ Claim 1, wherein  $m/(m+n+p)$  in the general formula (1) is 0.05 to 0.8.
6. (Currently amended): A lubricant composition for water-based metal working oil which comprises the polyether (E) according to ~~any one of Claims 1 to 5~~ Claim 1 and other additives.
7. (Original): The lubricant composition according to Claim 6, wherein other additives are aliphatic carboxylic acid with a carbon number of 8 to 22 and/or a salt thereof (F).
8. (Original): The lubricant composition according to Claim 7, wherein (F)/(E) is 0.03 to 5.0 at a weight ratio.
9. (Currently amended): The lubricant composition according to ~~any one of Claims 6 to 8~~ Claim 6, which contains, as other additives, one kind or more selected from the group consisting of an antioxidant, an extreme-pressure additive, a rust preventive and an antifoaming agent.

10. (Currently amended): The lubricant composition according to ~~any one of Claims 6 to 9~~ Claim 6,

which does not contain hydrocarbon oil as other additives.

11. (Currently amended): A water-based metal working oil comprising water and the lubricant ~~according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 or the lubricant composition according to any one of Claims 6 to 10~~ or the lubricant composition according to Claim 1,

said water-based metal working oil containing polyether (E) of 0.01 to 95 weight % in quantity on a basis of a weight of said metal working oil.

12. (Original): The water-based metal working oil according to Claim 11,  
which is of solution type or soluble type.

13. (Currently amended): The water-based metal working oil according to Claim 11 [[or 12]],

which is employed for working aluminum, aluminum alloy, iron and/or steel.